(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) A proposal for infrastructure development/upgradation for the Aquaculture Cluster, Bhimavaram-Visakhapatnam zone under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Since the proposal was not in conformity with the parameters for IIUS, the same could not be sanctioned and a communication to this effect was sent to Government of Andhra pradesh in June, 2005.

Modernisation and integrated development of leather sector

3370. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme has been approved to support moderanisation and integrated development of leather sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme would be redesigned to assist the small scale sector more;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has notified a comprehensive scheme titled "Integrated Development of Leather Sector" (IDLS) for modernization and technology upgradation in all the segments of the Leather Industry, *viz.,* tanneries, footwear, footwear components, saddlery, leather goods and garments, with an outlay of Rs. 290 crore during the Tenth Plan Period. The assistance is available in the form of investment grant @ of 30% to SSI units and 20% to non-SSI units with a ceiling of Rs.50 lakh for both SSI & non-SSI units.

World Bank report on economic development of India

3371. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has given any report on the economic development of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the World Bank has desired to assist Indian Industry to boost economic growth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the industrial centers likely to be covered under the investment, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The significant economic reports on India released recently by the World Bank are (i) Country Strategy for India (FY 05—08); (ii) India Sustaining Reform, Reducing Poverty; (iii) India and the Knowledge "Economy; and (iv) India Investment Climate Assessment 2004.

(b) The "Country Strategy for India" Report was prepared around the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07). The Strategy Principles in this Report are: Focus on Outcomes; Selectivity; and Knowledge Partnership. The Programme Priorities are Improving Government Effectiveness; Investing in People, Empowering Communities; and Promoting Private Sectorled Growth.

The second report deals with India's development policy challenges, namely, improving the management of public resources by reducing budget deficits, reallocating expenditure to more productive investments, and enhancing the quality of services delivery, and improving the investment climate and raising productivity in industry, services, agriculture and rural development.

The third report provides an assessment of India's readiness to embrace the knowledge economy, highlights some constraints and emerging possibilities.

The fourth report viz. India Investment Climate Assessment 2004 deals with various' factors, which influence the investment climate. It utilized the firm level data from the joint World Bank-Confederation of Indian Industry Investment Climate Survey of Indian manufacturing companies conducted in 2000 and 2003 in comparing the investment climate variations over the three years. The Report brought out the need of improving the physical

infrastructure and pursuing regulatory reforms for improving the investment climate.

(c) and (d) No such proposal has been received from the Bank.

Bio-Mass Gasifier project in Myanmar

3372. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has set up a demonstration bio-mass gasifier project suitable for small and medium enterprises in Myanmar, and is also assisting Myanmar in setting up the BIMSTEC Energy Information Center;

(b) if so, how far small and medium enterprises have derived benefit from the bio-mass gasifier; and

(c) by when the energy information center is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The bio mass gasifier uses local agricultural residue as its main feedstock. The gasifier reduces fuel consumption and productivity of the end produce also improves due to better burning in the tobacco curing industry.

(c) India assisted Myanmar in setting up the website for the BIMSTEC Energy Information Centre. Energy information and data from India, Myanmar and Thailand has been uploaded on to the website: http://www.bimstec-energy.org.mm.

Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Obstacles in Marine Exports

3373. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of countries, according to MPEDA, in which there are sanitary and phyto-sanitary related market access obstacles;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to these obstacles, the export of the Indian marine products are adversely affected; and